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URBAN DISTRICT  
OF  
KNOTTINGLEY

---

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

**1959**



U R B A N   D I S T R I C T

O F

K N O T T I N G L E Y

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

O F   T H E

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H

F O R   T H E   Y E A R

1959.

B Y

J. F.   F R A S E R.

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

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Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Baghill House,  
Walkergate,  
Pontefract.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

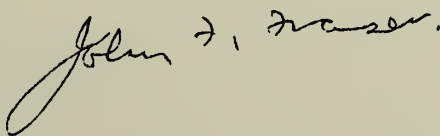
I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Urban District during the year, 1959.

The annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John T. Fraser'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.

Medical Officer of Health.

Journal of the  
American  
Medical Association  
Chicago, Ill.  
1914

Published weekly, except during the summer months, when it is published bi-weekly.

Subscription price, \$5.00 per annum in advance.

Single copies, 15 cents. Entered as second-class matter, June 26, 1911, under post office number 374, at Chicago, Ill., under special agreement for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917. Postage paid at Chicago, Ill., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes in Chicago, Ill., to JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 10, Ill. Outside Chicago, Ill., to JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 10, Ill.

Vol. 11

Published weekly

Number 1

January 1, 1914

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. 1959.

Chairman: Cr. S.V. White. J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. M. Nunns.

Cr. C. Askin.

Cr. J.T.D. Beaumont.

Cr. A. Cardwell.

Cr. J.E. Durkin. J.P.

Cr. P. Gross.

Cr. Miss H. Hoaksey.

Cr. E. Hodgson.

Cr. J.T. Nunns.

Cr. W.B. Piper.

Cr. A. Reynolds. J.P.

Cr. H. Rose.

Cr. J. Shay.

Cr. R.P. Wilson. J.P.

Clerk to the Council:- E. Wigglesworth, Esq.,

Medical Officer of Health:-

John F. Fraser.

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector.

Leslie Barber, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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P A R T O N E.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the District: 2,837 Acres.  
 Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 10,950.  
 Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1959: 3,489.  
 Rateable Value: 1959 - £170,699. 1958 - £81,535.  
 Product of Penny Rate: 1959 - £665.0s.0d. 1958 - £314.0s.0d.  
 These figures show a population increase of 50.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1958.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	69 ( 99)	79 (105)	148 (204)
Illegitimate.	2 ( 6)	6 ( 3)	8 ( 9)
	<u>71</u> (105)	<u>85</u> (108)	<u>156</u> (213)

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 14.2 (19.5)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	2 ( 3)	2 ( 4)	4 ( 7)
Illegitimate.	1 ( -)	- ( -)	1 ( -)
	<u>3</u> ( 3)	<u>2</u> ( 4)	<u>5</u> ( 7)

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 31.1. (31.8)

Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 0.45 (0.64).

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All Age Groups.	62 ( 50)	35 ( 37)	97 ( 87)

<u>Infants Under 1 year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	3 ( 3)	4 ( 1)	7 ( 4)
Illegitimate.	- ( -)	- ( -)	- ( -)
	<u>3</u> ( 3)	<u>4</u> ( 1)	<u>7</u> ( 4)

Maternal Deaths:- Nil (Nil).

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population:	8.9	(8.0)
All infants per 1,000 live births:	44.9	(18.8)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	47.3	(19.6)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births:	Nil	Nil.

The number of births decreased by 57 as compared with last year and the birth rate has fallen from 19.5 to 14.2.

Deaths have increased by 10. The infant mortality rate is 44.9 as against 18.8 last year.

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table:-

T A B L E I.

Cause of Death.	M	F	Total
Malignant neoplasm. Lung Bronchus.	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm. Breast.	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm. Uterus.	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	5	3	8
Leukaemia. Aleukaemia.	2	-	2
Diabetes.	2	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	8	13
Coronary disease. Angina.	8	4	12
Other heart disease.	15	5	20
Other circulatory disease.	-	3	3
Influenza.	1	-	1
Pneumonia.	7	2	9
Bronchitis.	6	-	6
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations.	1	-	1
Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	4	5	9
All other accidents.	1	2	3
Totals:-	62	35	97

INFANT MORTALITY.

The following Table gives the causes of infant deaths during 1959, classified into age groups:-

T A B L E    III

Cause of Death.	Weeks	Months.				-1 year.		
	-1	1-2	3-4	10-12		M	F	Total
Cerebral Haemorrhage. Prematurity and bilateral atelectasis.	1	-	-	-		1	-	1
Intercranial Haemorrhage. Bilateral tentorial tears. Premature breech delivery. Atelectasis.	1	-	-	-		-	1	1
Asphyxia. Atelectasis and extreme prematurity. (twins)	2	-	-	-		-	2	2
Broncho Pneumonia.	-	1	-	-		-	1	1
Meningeal Convulsions. Influenza.	-	-	1	-		1	-	1
Acute Otitis Media.	-	-	-	1		1	-	1
Totals:-	4	1	1	1		3	4	7

Five deaths occurred in hospital, and two at home.



COMPARISON OF KNOTTINGLEY VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

T A B L E    III

	Knott- ingley Urban District	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County.	England & Wales (Pro visional figures.
BIRTH RATE. (per 1,000 estimated population).	14.2	16.1	16.5	16.5
DEATH RATE. (per 1,000 estimated population) all causes.	8.9	12.4	11.6	11.6
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D.	-	0.04	0.04	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	-	0.08	0.07	0.08
Tuberculosis. Other.	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis All Forms.	-	0.09	0.08	0.09
Cancer.	1.55	2.12	1.99	2.14
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system.	1.19	1.96	1.81	*
Heart and Circulatory.	3.20	4.68	4.31	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.46	1.55	1.44	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births)	-	0.41	0.36	0.38
Infant Mortality.	44.9	24.0	24.0	22.0
Still Births. (per 1,000 live and still births).	31.1	19.7	20.4	20.7

\* Figures not available.

P A R T   T W O.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, throughout the year:-

T A B L E   I V

Disease.	Jan/ Mar	Apr/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Total	Deaths	To Hosp.
Measles.	10	116	61	2	189	Nil	2
Scarlet Fever.	10	12	7	42	71	Nil	68
Pneumonia.	4	1	-	5	10	Nil	1
Whooping Cough.	-	3	-	1	4	Nil	1
Dysentery.	-	-	3	2	5	Nil	2
Totals:-	24	132	71	52	279	Nil	74

Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year.

Immunisation.

167 children under the age of 5 years and 5 over the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against the disease. In addition, 15 children received a reinforcing injection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons:-

T A B L E V.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At commencement of 1959.	30	23	6	14	73
Notified for the first time during 1959.	1	-	-	-	1
Restored to Register.	1	-	-	-	1
Inward Transfers.	2	1	-	-	3
Removed from Register.	3	2	1	1	7
Cases remaining on Register at the end of 1959.	31	22	5	13	71

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

T A B L E VI.

Entries relating to	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have left the district.	2	1	-	-	3
Persons recovered.	1	1	1	1	4
Totals:-	3	2	1	1	7

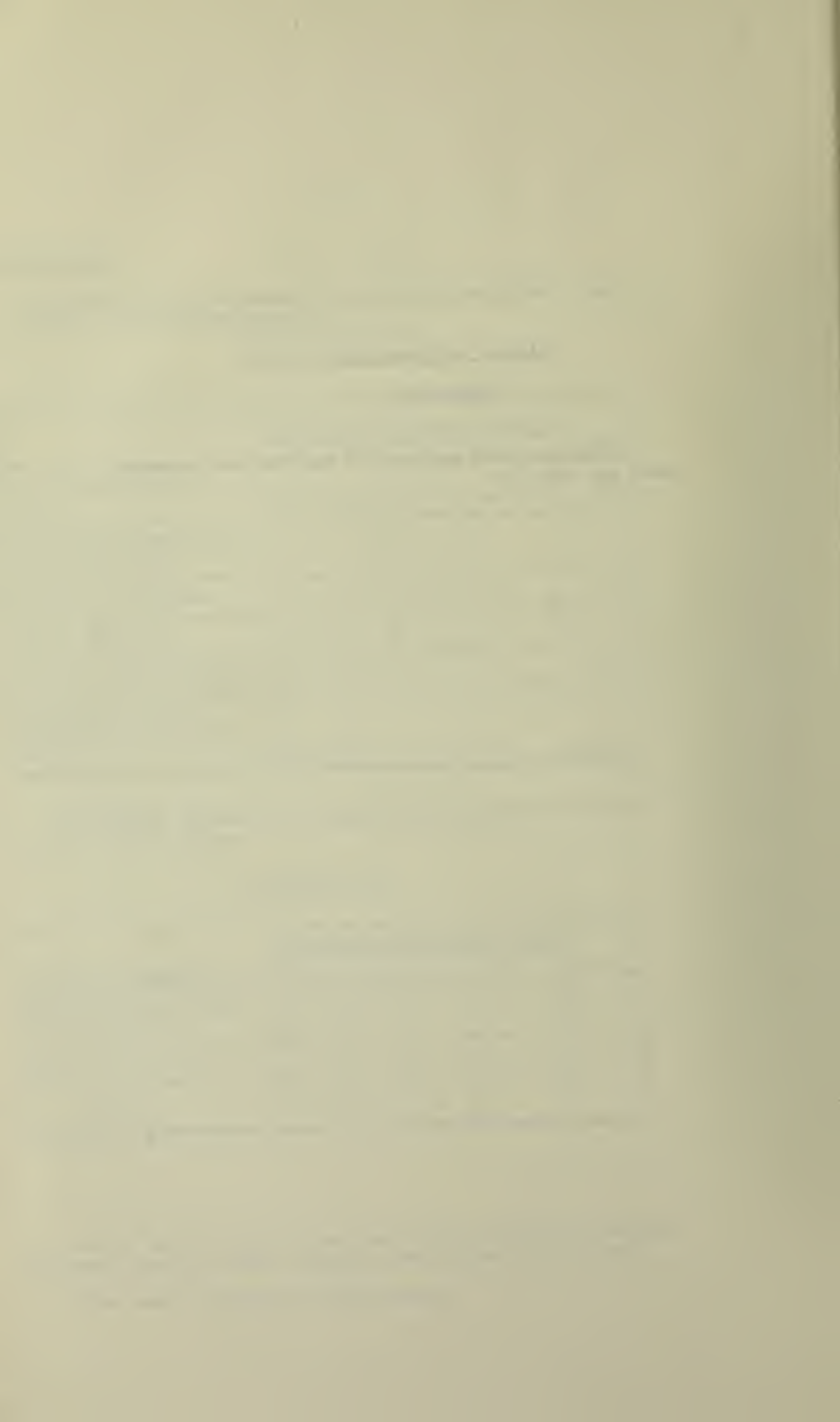
During the year only one new case of Tuberculosis was notified. This was a boy of 9 years, suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.





PART III.  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE  
DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough.

Featherstone Urban District.

Knottingley Urban District.

Osgoldcross Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

1959.

BY  
J. F. FRASER.,  
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.



Divisional Staff at 31.12.59.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J.F. FRASER. M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer  
and School Medical Officer.

G.M. Hayhall. F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer  
and School Medical Officer.

J.C. White. M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.

Ophthalmologist.

Dr. J.V. Kirkwood M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood. F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino-Laryngologist.

Mr. K.M. Mayall. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.  
Mrs. P.M. Brice.  
Mrs. B. Clarke.  
Miss A. Elsley.  
Mrs. M. Faulkner.  
Miss B.N. Kennington.  
Miss B.K. Porter.  
Mrs. M.K. Walsh.  
Miss B. Wright.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Miss L.O.I. Day.  
Mrs. J.K. Smith. (Clinic nurse).

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Mrs. A. Atack.  
Mrs. K. Berry.  
Miss R.G. Fielder.  
Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief).  
Mrs. D. Kelly.  
Mrs. B. Lister.  
Miss C. Norton.  
Mrs. A.M. Randall.  
Miss C.A. Roberts.  
Mrs. J.R. Wilford.

Home Nurses.

Miss L. Casey.  
Miss J.M. Davis.  
Mrs. F. Green.  
Miss E. Lumley.  
Mrs. A. Pearce.  
Miss M. Reading. (County Relief).

Home Nurse/Midwives.

Miss B.M. Butterworth.  
Miss D.A. Sutcliffe.

Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. M. Myers.

Speech Therapist.

Miss K. Wade.

Duly Authorised Officer.

Mr. G.F. Townend.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver - Senior Clerk.  
Mr. R. Bailey - Deputy Senior Clerk.  
Mrs. M. Bailey.  
Miss F.C. Beresford. (Sick Leave).  
Miss K. Duker.  
Mrs. E.M. Slack. (Part-time).  
Mrs. T. Smith.  
Mr. A. Sutcliffe.  
Miss M. Thorpe.  
Mrs. C. Walker.

## INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Services Act.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1959 was 1092, a decrease of 46 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 18.4 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 19.5 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.5 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.5.

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 607, a decrease of 190 compared with 1958.

It will be recalled that in 1958 the Register General incorrectly assigned many deaths which took place in Headlands Hospital, Pontefract, to the Pontefract Borough even though the persons concerned had lived elsewhere before admission. This gave an abnormally high death rate to which I drew attention last year. This error has not been repeated and the figures for 1959 give a more accurate picture of the situation.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 10.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 13.6 for the previous year. The West Riding Administrative area is 11.6 and England and Wales 11.6.

### Infant Mortality.

In 1959 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 36. The infant mortality was 33.0 as against 23.7 in the previous year.

### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the Divisional area during the year.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1094 notified live births, 462 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 43 of these cases.

### Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division:-

Death of Mother.	-
Death of Child.	1
Still Births.	2
Artificial Feeding.	66
Liability to be a source of infection.	5

### Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by midwives during 1958 numbered 116, all of these being domiciliary.



### Gas and Air Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 76 cases. Pethidine only was given in 81 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 220 cases.

### Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are four ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 455 patients attended, of which 298 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2,576. 120 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

### Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 347. Some difficulty was experienced in running these classes at Pontefract due to the shortage of midwifery staff. The staffing position has now improved and this difficulty should not continue.

### Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this Division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

Little difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

### CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley.

Our new Pontefract Clinic continues to be admired and appreciated by patients and staff.

It is hoped to make several improvements at the Knottingley Clinic in 1960, including new entrance, pram shelter and toilet facilities.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending at the clinics:-

Ostermilk	Virol
Trufood	Maltoline
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack
Cow & Gate	Farex
Horlicks	Robinson's Groats.
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Patent Barley.
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bovril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The annual turnover of baby foods etc., is approximately £5,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

#### Premature Babies.

During the year 69 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division, and 30 were born at home.

#### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

##### Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. the entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 56 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3936 periodic inspections were carried out. When it is considered that the school population is approximately 11,000, it will be realised that over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

##### General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 95.86% were classified as satisfactory and only 4.14% as unsatisfactory.

##### Uncleanliness.

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 16,546 examinations of children in schools. Of these 325 individual children were found to be infested.

#### SPECIAL CLINICS.

##### Ophthalmic Clinics.

During the year Dr. J.V. Kirkwood took over responsibility from Dr. R.L. Wood for the Ophthalmic Clinic. During the year 1645 children were examined. Of these 588 were prescribed glasses.

##### Ears, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, for children from this Division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 22 sessions and saw 152 children. In all, the children made 255 attendances.

#### Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 144 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 178.

#### Child Guidance Treatment.

In April the clinic with its team of workers, Dr. S.M. Leese, Consultant Psychiatrist, Mr. D.G. Fickles, Psychologist and Mr. J. Coulson, Psychiatric Social Worker, was transferred to the Central Clinic, Pontefract, from County Hall, Wakefield. Children from surrounding divisional areas attended here in addition to our own.

#### Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months, ultra violet ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 45 children made 850 attendances for this treatment.

#### Speech Therapy.

In 1959, the speech therapy clinic at Featherstone was transferred to the Central Clinic, Pontefract. This is more convenient and more centrally situated for mothers to attend. Miss K.M. Wade treated 55 children during 1959.

#### Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

#### Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the 42 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 18 examinations were made.



### B.C.G Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercule bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1959 the following work was undertaken in the Division:-

<u>No. of consents issued.</u>	<u>No of consents Received.</u>	<u>Mantoux test.</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative.</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive.</u>	<u>Not Ascertained.</u>
904	601	539	452	57	-

#### B.C.G. Vaccination.

452

### Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme of vaccination against poliomyelitis was continued during the year.

At the end of 1959 the position was as follows:-

#### Children under 15 years of Age.

Number vaccinated with three injections.....	7247
Number vaccinated with two injections.....	3303
Number vaccinated with one injection.....	133

Acceptance rate 68.7%

#### Young Persons.

Number vaccinated with three injections.....	296
Number vaccinated with two injections.....	2157
Number vaccinated with one injection.....	66

Acceptance rate 29.8%

The Government decided at the end of the year to extend the scheme to include adults of up to the age of 40 years.

### HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, the following number of visits were made by the Health Visitors in the division:-

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during year...	3329
Total visits made to expectant mothers.....	120
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age.....	4434
Total visits made to children aged 1 and under 2 years.....	2824
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years.....	5148
Total visits to tuberculous households.....	2094
Total families or households visited.....	3772
Other cases visited.....	6094

### HOME NURSING.

During the year, 22,476 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 26,627 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home nurses during year.	No. of visits paid by Home nurses during year.
(1) Medical.	616	18,016
(2) Surgical.	180	3,732
(3) Infectious Diseases.	1	10
(4) Tuberculosis.	14	625
(5) Maternal complications.	7	93
TOTALS:-	818	22,476
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	473	17,031
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	39	326
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	218	16,958

### HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| (a) Ill.     | (d) Expectant Mother.                       |
| (b) Lying-in | (e) Mental Defective.                       |
| (c) Aged.    | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the Head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of home helps in this Division was 24.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i)	Basic.	24.
(ii)	From reserve.	-
(iii)	TOTAL.	24.

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1959.

(i)	Whole-time.	Nil.
(ii)	Part-time.	40.
(iii)	TOTAL.	40.

Cases provided with Domestic help during the year ended  
31st December, 1959.

	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Hours employed.</u>
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers).	55	3557
(ii) Tuberculosis.	6	1218
(iii) Chronic Sick - (a) aged 65+	290	44953
(b) under 65	49	6163
(iv) Others.	-	-
<u>TOTALS:-</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>55891</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time. 24.4.

MENTAL HEALTH.

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committee. The new centre opened at Kershaw Avenue, Airedale at the beginning of the year. A special bus is hired to convey children from Featherstone, Pontefract and Knottingley to and from the Centre.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR SUPERANNUATION  
PURPOSES.

New entrants to the County Council service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 58 candidates. In addition, 2 members of the County Staff resident in the Divisional area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

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KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR  
1959

---

BY  
L. BARBER,  
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

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KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
CONSTITUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1959/60.

CHAIRMAN :

Councillor W. B. Piper.

MEMBERS :

Councillor A. Cardwell.  
Councillor P. Gross.  
Councillor Miss H. Hoaksey.  
Councillor E. Hodgson.  
Councillor J. I. Nunns.  
Councillor Mrs. M. Nunns.  
Councillor J. Shay.  
Councillor S. V. White, J.P.

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KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My fifth Annual Report to your Council affords an opportunity to do a little genteel boasting both on the behalf of my own department and of those other departments with which we so closely co-operate.

As a result of one of the largest building programmes in Knottingley's history a total of 124 new dwellings were let during the year.

The largest Slum Clearance programme ever to be embarked upon in one year resulted in 106 houses being dealt with and a total of 122 families comprising 326 persons being rehoused from slum dwellings.

The target of 187 dwellings to be dealt with in five years was attained early in the year, after less than three and a half years and a good start was made on the second stage of the total programme.

The houses and shops in the area scheduled for new shopping development at Ferrybridge were cleared at the latter end of the year and it is hoped that reconstruction will commence during 1960.

Two further Smoke Control Areas were declared during this period and late in the year conversion work began on 360 Council houses contained in the first Smoke Control Area declared in 1958 and confirmed in 1959.

The date of the Public Enquiry into the new Sewage Works scheme has been fixed and progress in that direction should soon be evident.

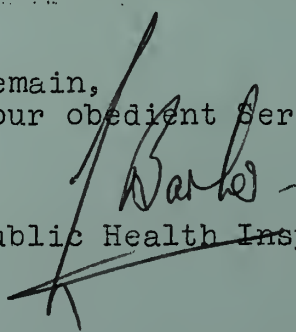
Further progress has been made in Food Hygiene matters and the reconstruction of unsatisfactory licensed premises is going ahead.

Refuse Collection gave little trouble during the year and the staffing position eased noticeably.

The figures given above may not, of themselves, appear terribly impressive when read alongside the numerical achievements of say, Leeds, but expressed in percentages of houses in the district or per thousand population, they put the Urban District in the forefront of progressive Authorities today.

My thanks are due to Mr. K. Bedford for his industry in the office, Councillor W. B. Piper and the other members of the Health Committee for their unfailing support and to members of the staff whose encouragement and advice have made it possible to sound so optimistic in what may easily become merely a dry precis of work done.

I remain,  
Your obedient servant,

  
Public Health Inspector.

Council Offices,  
The Close,  
KNOTTINGLEY.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Section 1 - Sanitary Circumstances

#### WATER SUPPLIES

The water supply to the district is purchased in bulk from Pontefract Municipal Borough and is distributed by the Knottingley Urban District Council.

The water, taken from three boreholes, is chlorinated at source and is of consistently good quality. The hardness of the water, both temporary and permanent, occasionally proves to be inconvenient, particularly in water heating appliances, but the problem is far from insuperable and complaints are few and far between.

Only four dwelling houses out of a total of 3,489 are not connected to the mains supply. Samples of bacteriological examination of the private supplies have, to date, been satisfactory.

A copy of the Public Analyst's Report on a sample of mains water is appended below.

#### Sample of Mains Water

##### Chemical Analysis

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Total Solids	380
Chloride	28
Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	144
Total Hardness	220
Permanent Hardness	76
Temporary Hardness	144
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil
Iron	0.4
Fluorine	0.1
Free Ammonia	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	4.3
pH	7.2

This water is of good organic purity.

(Signed) F. W. M. Jaffe.

RICHARDSON & JAFFE,  
BRADFORD.

## SANITARY ACCOMODATION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Out of 3,489 dwellings, 3441 houses have water borne sanitation and of these only 38 are connected to cesspools. There are 48 earth closets or privies but these are situated in outlying parts of the district and many of these houses are included in the Council's Slum Clearance programme. Two houses have unsatisfactory outfalls but work commenced late on in the year to connect these properties to the public sewer.

The works carried out last year at the Ferrybridge works, together with the complete emptying of the sludge bays at Knottingley, have helped keep our effluents at a better level than we have a right to expect bearing in mind the age and overloaded condition of the works. The sedimentation tanks are still emptied weekly by the cesspool emptying vehicle and this has now become an integral part of the operation of the works.

As mentioned in my preface the Public Enquiry into our proposed new Sewage Works has now been fixed and the verdict should be known by the time this report is in print.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disinfestation of premises which have housed cases of Infectious Disease is carried out as necessary and supplies of disinfectant are still available free of charge at the Town Hall on Saturday mornings.

Whilst the virulent diseases of by-gone days have now largely been conquered or even eliminated the Public Health Inspector and his staff, and even their families, can still be exposed to great risk of infection whilst carrying out their work of protecting the public at large. Slight risk even so, you may think, but who would take any risk at all with Poliomyelitis for example, if the risk could be avoided.

## DIRTY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES

The table below shows the infestations dealt with during 1959. The figures are lower than those for 1958 but this is unlikely to be significant as the weather and many other factors can cause relatively large variations in both numbers and strength of infestations.

The majority of these infestations are found in old slum property but one or two of the bed bug infestations have been traced to second-hand furniture of unknown origin.

Clovermites abound in uncut grass and no doubt many infestations of this type are not reported. A little work with mower or spade is usually the best deterrent in these cases.

Dirty, as opposed to verminous premises, remain a thorn, albeit only a small one, in our flesh. A number of people still believe that dirt and lack of money are synonymous but the one does not always infer the other. Quite a number of our "hardcase" clients apparently have adequate resources for personel pleasures even if more basic necessities are conspicuous only by their absence.

### Infestations dealt with during 1959

Infestation	No. Treated	Re-infestations
Ants	28	4
Bed-bugs	12	-
Cockroaches	17	2
Clovermites	5	2
Silverfish	2	-

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Much work has gone in to prevention of air pollution in the district and a great improvement has been noticed in the overall industrial problem. Knottingley has a fantastic amount of industry for it's size and the wonder is that the pollution figures for the area are not much higher than they are.

Certain processes in the glassworks, namely the producer gas plants, together with the whole of the processing plant of the two Chemical works in the district are under the Control of the Alkali Inspectorate. Whilst these plants very rarely offend against the provisions of the Clean Air Act, nevertheless they are a source of recurring nuisance which most certainly offends both the visual and olfactory senses of the inhabitants of the Eastern areas of the town.

Much has been done to modernise industrial steam raising plant and certain factories have now fitted recording apparatus to provide concrete evidence on which to base future alterations to ensure a "clean" stack top.

The Knottingley No. 1 Smoke Control Area was confirmed early in the year and by the end of the year half the 400 properties involved had been converted to approved appliances. The remaining properties are being converted at the rate of 10 per week.

Two more Smoke Control Areas were declared during the year covering, ultimately, some 500 dwellings and confirmation of the Orders was received late in the year. These Orders cover one privately developed estate and one new Council estate and the houses are being designed and built to conform to the Order.

In addition to the above-mentioned progress there are now 150 houses outside the Smoke Control Areas which carry a tenancy agreement to burn only smokeless fuels.

It can in truth be said that a real attempt is being made to add the lasting benefits of Pure Air to those of Pure Food and Pure Water provided by our predecessors.

One small regret which one cannot help feeling is that occasionally vested interest, be it either social, economic or politic raises it's ugly head with little regard to the betterment which will inevitably accrue to the public at large.



I give below a summary of visits and observations re industrial air pollution.

No. of 30 minute smoke observations.....	17
No. of Intimation Notices sent.....	3
No. of Complaints received.....	18
No. of Factory visits.....	56
No. of Certificates of Exemption issued.....	3
No. of Prior Approvals.....	-

Air Pollution figures for 1959 show an appreciable decrease on the 1958 figures. The only exception to this is the Holmfields sulphur figures which reflect the increased proportion of South Easterly winds experienced during the year.

The overall reduction in sulphur and solids is a most satisfactory proof of success in the campaign to reduce industrial pollution in this district.

The problem must, however, be kept in a true perspective and to this end we include comparative figures for a heavily industrialised city and a country town with little or no industry. It will be seen from this comparison that, with the exception of sulphur which is the major constituent of power station flue gases, our figures are very closely related to the latter town. This, I think, shows our problem in it's true scale. I should, however, like to install a set of gauges at the easterly end of the town in order to produce some reliable figures for pollution in that area.

Only in this way can we produce the comparisons necessary to enable us to judge the success of measures now being taken to reduce pollution from the industries in this industrial sector.

#### Atmospheric Pollution

Average monthly deposits 1958 and 1959

Instrument Site	Tons/ .quare mile/month						Sulphur	
	Soluble		Insoluble		Total		Mgms/day/ 100 sq.cms.	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
Holmfields	5.18	3.10	8.37	7.38	13.55	10.48	0.63	0.817
Warren Ave.	4.18	3.35	4.36	4.27	8.54	7.62	1.48	1.075
Ave. of 3 other sites around Power Stations	4.85	3.65	6.59	5.94	11.44	9.59	1.36	1.27
Industrial City	11.45	9.60	31.25	29.63	42.7	39.23	3.65	3.225
Country Town	-	5.05	-	4.05	-	9.1	-	0.806

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

In the district there is one licensed site for residential caravans which contains between 25 and 30 caravans. The site, although well situated, has a poor access road but this is not a great drawback.

Mains water, electricity and hard standings are available to site users. Drainage is to soakaways and the individual chemical closets are emptied to a cesspool which is in turn emptied weekly.

Exempt from the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act are members of the Showmans Guild, some of whom use the Urban District as winter quarters. They themselves cause little or no problem but they do attract certain less desirable elements who need careful checking from time to time.

#### RODENT CONTROL

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have now completely abolished their rat disinfection service although they are maintaining their advisory and experimental sections. As a result of this withdrawal a good deal of contract work should have come to Local Authorities but newly formed Disinfection Companies consisting largely of former Ministry employees skimmed off the cream of this work and, in fact, little extra work has fallen to the rodent control service. This is perhaps as well because the calls on the services of the part-time operator have most certainly increased in other directions.

Despite the difficulties, however, all complaints were dealt with and some small survey work resulting in block control treatments was carried out. The sewer baiting programme was helped considerably by the dry weather which produced better manhole conditions than has been obtained for many previous treatments.

A new refuse tipping site was brought into use during the year and a thorough treatment was given to the site prior to tipping being commenced. This, together with baiting at regular intervals, has prevented any build up of infestation. The two most recently abandoned tips have also been treated during the year but infestation was negligible.

A most disturbing phenomenon occurred during the year when Warfarin was found to be completely ineffective on sites formerly treated with great and visible success. Visions of Warfarin immunity and the resultant hordes of migratory rodents were carefully, yet somewhat desperately put aside. Methods and mixed ratios were subject to very close scrutiny and most searching records of baiting and observed results were kept.

The problem was solved only when supplies were obtained from another manufacturer but even now the reason for the ineffectiveness of the previous supplies is not known.

A total of 106 infestations were treated during 1959 and all were cleared. All business premises found to be infested are treated and an account rendered. Private houses are treated free of charge.

A copy of the Annual Return made to the Ministry is given below.

In conclusion I would point out that Rate-borne Rodent Control costs will be almost doubled now that the Ministry grant of 50% of the nett costs has been withdrawn and included in the Block Grant.

REPORT FOR 9 MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1959

	Type of Property				
	Non - Agricultural				Agric.
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses incl Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total (1,2, &3.)	
<u>1</u> Number of properties in L.A's District	14	3489	422	3925	30
<u>2</u> Number of properties inspected as a result of					
a.notification	4	38	4	46	-
b.survey under the Act	15	18	41	74	-
c.otherwise (when visited primarily for some other purpose)	14	81	36	131	-
<u>3</u> Total insp. carried out including re-insp.	172	381	111	664	-
<u>4</u> Number of properties insp.(in S2) infested by					
a.Rats-Major	3	-	-	3	-
Minor	15	36	4	55	-
Mice-Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	16	-	16	-
<u>5</u> Number of infested properties (in S4)treated by L.A.	14	52	4	70	-
<u>6</u> Total treated including re-treatments	22	70	4	96	-
<u>7</u> No. of notices served under Sec.4 of the Act					
a.Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
b.Structural Work	-	-	-	-	-



	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses incl Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total (1,2&3)	Agric
<u>8</u> Number of cases in which default action taken after Sec. 4 notice	-	-	-	-	-
<u>9</u> Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
<u>10</u> Block Control Schemes done		4			

### FACTORIES

I give below a copy of the Annual Return made to the Minister of Labour and National Service which shows the visits made and sanitary defects found and remedied during 1959.

These figures do not include visits in respect of Rodent Control (given elsewhere), in respect of Means of Escape in Case of Fire nor of visits in respect of smoke and noxious effluvia both of which will be found in the summary of visits at the end of the report.

During the year the majority of factories were visited once and a few had more attention but by and large the conditions and amenities covered by the Local Authority are well complied with.

Over 80% of the factories in the district now have certificates in respect of Means of Escape in Case of Fire and at the end of the year six factories were having work done in preparation for these. All inspections are carried out in collaboration with the Fire Safety Officer of the Castleford Division of the West Riding Fire Service.

### FACTORIES ACT RETURN FOR 1959

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
<u>a</u> Factories in which Secs.1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by L. A's.	3	5	-	-
<u>b</u> Factories in which Sec.7 is to be enforced by L.A's.	44	56	1	-
<u>c</u> Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A's.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	47	61	1	-

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred by HM Insp.	to HM Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (s. 1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (s. 2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (s. 3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (s. 4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (s. 7.)					
1 Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
2 Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
3 Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (s. 6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	4	4	-	-	-

PART VIII.

Outworkers.

(Sections 110 & 111).

Nil Return.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Section 2 - Housing

#### HOUSING

As previously mentioned 1959 was a record year for Knottingley in most aspects of housing. Following two most disappointing years the strenuous efforts to rebuild our central residential area showed fruit and 124 new dwellings, mainly in the Central Area, were let during the year. The 1000th post-war dwelling was let in January, 1959 and by the end of the year the district could boast one post-war Council house for every 10 persons in the District. Few Local Authorities, I venture to say, can equal this record. Private builders, however, are still not rising to the opportunities offered to build for sale, although it must be said that sites are neither plentiful nor easy to obtain.

The present housing figures for the District are given below.

	<u>Dec. 1959</u>
No. of houses in the district.....	3489
No. of Council Houses in the district.....	1822
No. of post-war houses in the district.....	1260

#### OVERCROWDING

Statutory overcrowding in the District appears to be virtually non-existent apart from very short periods when certain families who live under almost nomadic conditions cause overcrowding in one or other of their "Cases" as they seek temporary refuge and shelter.

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The number of Improvement Grants also achieved a new high at 15 for the year making a total of 106 houses modernised and saved from possible Housing Act action since 1949.

The new Standard Grant procedure may improve matters for the future but to date little attempt has been made by owners to improve tenanted property. Owner-occupiers are the only people taking advantage of these Grants but I believe that this is comparable with the experience of most parts of the country.

#### UNFIT HOUSES

As a result of the accelerated building programme the number of houses represented to the Public Health Committee as being Unfit for Human Habitation was also greatly increased. The majority of houses represented were in the Central Areas of both Knottingley and Ferrybridge in order to prepare the way for both Shop and Residential redevelopment of these areas. The site for new shops at Ferrybridge was, in fact, completely cleared and we now await Ministry permission to proceed with their erection.

In addition to the houses represented to Committee negotiations are constantly in progress for acquisition by agreement of land, with or without houses thereon, for use in

the Council's development plans.

The houses represented to Committee were dealt with as follows :-

Confirmed C. P. O.	7
Demolition Orders	37
Undertakings to demolish	24
Closing Orders	5
Certificates of Unfitness	40
Total confirmed unfit houses	<u>113</u>

A total of 59 houses were demolished, 11 more were closed under sections 16(4) and 17(1) of the Housing Act, 1957 and altogether 122 families comprising 328 persons were rehoused from slum properties.

### RENT ACT 1957

#### Certificates of Disrepair

I present below a summarised table of action taken under the above Act from 1st January, 1959 to 31st December, 1959.

Applications	Undertakings		Certificates Issued	Repairs Completed
	Given	Accepted		
3	-	-	1	1

I also give below a copy of the return of Housing Statistics for 1959.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS

1. No. of Dwelling Houses in District 3489
2. No. of Houses included in above (a) Back-to-Back 20  
(b) Single Back 47
3. HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

No. of Houses included in Representations made during the year (a) in Clearance Areas - 0  
(b) individual unfit houses - 106

#### (a) HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas	Demolished	Displaced 1959	
		Families	Persons
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	6	6	22
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) H. A. 1957	2	2	7

Not in Clearance Areas	Demolished	Displaced 1959	
		Families	Persons
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sect. 17 H. A. 1957	10	55	153
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the M. O. of H.	41	48	116
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
(b) <u>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</u>	Number		
(8) Under Sects. 16(4), 17(1) & 35(1), H.A. 1957	11	11	28
(9) Under Sects. 17(3) & 26, H.A. 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Sect. 18, H. A. 1957	-	-	-

(c) UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by L. A.	13	-
(12) After formal notices under :		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sects. 9 & 16 H.A. 1957	-	-
(13) Under Sect. 24. H.A. 1957	-	-

(d) UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (H.A. 1957)

Position at end of year	Number of Houses	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1)
	(1)	(2)
(14) Retained for temporary accomodation under:		
(a) Sect. 48	-	-
(b) Sect. 17(2)	-	-
(c) Sect. 46	-	-
(15) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sects. 34 & 53	-	-

(e) PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses	Number of occupants of houses in column (1)
	(1)	(2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or C.P.O.'s purchased in the year	19	64

4. No. of families rehoused during the year into council owned dwellings from (a) Clearance Areas - 8  
(b) Overcrowding - 0

5. RENT ACT 1957

- (a) No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued - 1  
(b) No. of undertakings to execute repairs by owners to Local Authority - 1  
(c) No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued - 0

6. OVERCROWDING

Any comments in connection with this problem - Overcrowding in its present legal sense appears to be none existent in the district. Some "bedroom standard" overcrowding is apparent but a flexible house exchange system is gradually overcoming this trouble.

7. NEW DWELLINGS

No. of new dwellings completed during the year :  
By the Local Authority - 124  
By Private Enterprise - 8

8. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OR IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMODATION

	Formal applications received during the year	Applications approved during the year	Number of dwellings completed during the year
	Number of dwellings	Number of dwellings	
(a) CONVERSIONS (The no. of houses is the no. on completion of work)	-	-	-
(b) IMPROVEMENTS	15	15	13

9. DETAILS OF ADVANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING OR CONSTRUCTING HOUSES

5 Advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act have been made this year.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Section 3 - Food Inspection and Control

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are five slaughterhouses at present in use for the purpose of supplying meat to both the Urban District and certain of the surrounding villages. Each of them at least complies with the Regulations governing such premises at present but during the coming year much heartburning will probably ensue as the meaning of the new Regulations, both in their literal and financial sense, becomes evident. No one can yet prophesy the outcome of the Reports and negotiations which must be undertaken, but it is certain that to remain in use, some of the existing premises will need to be drastically improved.

The remaining slaughterhouse deals solely with horses and slaughters mainly for the Continental market although smaller quantities of horseflesh are sent to nearby towns.

#### MEAT INSPECTION

All slaughterhouses are visited regularly and all carcases are inspected post mortem. All horses are also, when destined for overseas markets, inspected ante mortem. Official certificates are issued in an approved form and without these and the approved mark stamped on each quarter, no horseflesh can be landed at its destination. This Regulation, coupled with delayed mail, has, from time to time, caused some small crisis on both sides of the Channel!

There has been an appreciable drop in the number of horses killed and an appreciable increase in the number of cows, not, I hasten to add, that the two items have any related significance.

The really significant part of the meat inspection report is the relatively low disease factor and particularly the low incidence of Tuberculosis, even in cows, which shows the increasing success being achieved by the Attested Herd Scheme. In this scheme, promoted by the Ministries, the Veterinarian, the Meat Inspector, the Scientist and Research Worker all play their part in the eradication of one of the great killing diseases of our time.

My thanks are again due to the Officers of the neighbouring Authorities, and in particular to Osgoldcross Rural District Council, for carrying out this onerous duty in my absence.

Statistical tables showing details of inspections, condemnations etc. are given on the following page.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Heifers	Sheep	Pigs	Horses	Total
No. killed	340	221	3	2032	660	464	3720
No. inspected	340	221	3	2032	660	464	3720
<u>All diseases except T.B. &amp; Cysticerci</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	26	-	52	1	135	222
Percentage of no. inspected affected by disease other than T.B. & Cysticerci	2.35	11.76	-	2.66	0.45	29.09	6.08
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	16	-	-	25	-	41
Percentage of no. inspected affected by T.B.	-	7.24	-	-	3.79	-	1.10
<u>Cysticercosis</u>							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Whole carcasses condemned as unfit for  
human consumption

2 Pigs - Urticaria  
2 Sheep - Cœdema

Organs and part carcasses affected by Tuberculosis

<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Cows</u>
Heads - 25	Head & Lungs - 1
	Heads - 7
	Lungs - 8



Organs and part carcasses affected by other diseases

Horses

Lungs - 1 Parasitic  
Livers - 129 Parasitic  
          - 2 Necrosis  
Spleen - 1 Leucocythemia  
         - 2 Rupture

Cattle

Livers - 1 Cirrhosis  
         - 7 Parasitic  
C. Bovis - 3

Cows

Livers - 3 Angiomatosis  
         - 18 Distomatosis  
         - 3 Sepsis  
Lungs - 1 Parasitic  
Sirloins - 1 Warble

Pigs

Heads - 1 Actinomycosis

Sheep

Plucks - 33 Parasitic  
Livers - 18 Parasitic  
         - 1 Fatty Degeneration

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1949/54

I give below the numbers of licences issued by the Local Authority under the above regulations for the year 1959.

Dealers

T. T. - 6  
Pasteurised - 7  
Sterilised - 19

Supplementary

T. T. - 4  
Pasteurised - 4  
Sterilised - 3

ICE-CREAM

Ten new retailers were registered during the year and there are now 30 registered retail premises and one producer-retailer in the district.

FOOD HAWKERS

All food hawkers in the Urban District are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951 Section 76.

Before registration all vehicles must have a self contained hot water supply, a sink and soap and towel.

13 hawkers have now been registered of which 3 have been registered to trade in vegetables only.

FOOD PREMISES

I give below a list of food premises in the district.

Registered Section 16, Food & Drugs Act 1955

For the sale and storage for sale of ice-cream - 30  
For the manufacture and sale of ice-cream - 1  
For the preparation of sausages or preserved food - 8

### Other Food Premises

Butchers	- 10
Cafes	- 6
Fish & Chip Shops	- 13
Bakehouses	- 2
Slaughterhouses	- 6
Clubs & Licensed Premises	- 28
Other food shops	- 62

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

All food premises in the District now have hot and cold water, sink, soap and towels and comply at least with the minimum requirements of these Regulations.

The two main shopping centres of the District, Aire Street and Ferrybridge Square, are both awaiting redevelopment, which is planned for the near, in fact almost immediate, future. This of course does not condition the owners or occupiers to a receptive frame of mind when improvements are suggested and I think it must be said that little further improvement will be obtained until the future plan is clearly known to the shopkeepers.

Work began on a new licensed house to replace existing and most unsuitable premises and plans have been passed for a major modernisation scheme in another house.

Conditions in the food preparing premises have remained reasonably good and it is hoped that the improvements to slaughterhouses will result inevitably in better preparing rooms.

More Food Hawkers have been registered and it is noted that where a "climb-in" type of van is provided many housewives will await, and even queue for, it's arrival, rather than walk 100 yards to the estate shops. Many of these "mobile shops" as they prefer to be known as are indeed cleaner than, and as well stocked as, many estate and corner shops and are quickly skimming the cream of the trade in these areas.

There has been no necessity for prosecutions during the year but certain notices have been served and complied with.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Section 4. Public Cleansing

#### REFUSE COLLECTION

The Local Authority are responsible for the collection and disposal of domestic refuse throughout the Urban District. The area is fairly compact, though long and narrow. Over three quarters of the houses and premises are contained in about half the acreage of the district, the remainder being scattered about on the borders of the district. This has the effect of producing comparatively long periods of unproductive travelling time in certain parts of the round.

One 16/18 cub. yd. Fore and Aft Tipper covers the district with a crew of one driver and six or seven loaders according to the season of the year. Some improvement in the quality of labour was evident during the year but a better type of man demands better working conditions and it was noticeable that adverse weather caused rather more absenteeism than usual.

Such amenities as can be provided i.e. heated lockers, washing facilities and protective clothing are available and are much appreciated.

As mentioned in my last Annual Report the weekly round is growing slowly but surely. The biggest disadvantage to the service is undoubtedly the greatly increased walking distance involved when spacious new estates take the place of cramped and crowded slum clearance property. This is part of the price one must pay for improved housing conditions. Unfortunately statistics cannot always readily show the extra work involved.

The actual growth in the number of bins emptied is shown below but in fact a further 250 houses have been demolished and replaced by new houses. We have therefore 250 extra bins to collect plus 500 houses each with a longer carry. A new estate, which will involve extra travelling time, is now under construction to rehouse central area slum dwellers. Inevitably under these conditions the cost of the service rises, both in terms of total cost and in cost per bin emptied. One is restricted in the number of men which can be used on any one vehicle as the time eventually arrives when an increase in loader strength does not give a commensurate increase in bins emptied. The annual cost of a vehicle and driver only is in the region of £1,000 - £1,200, that is, for this authority, a 1½d - 2d Rate. The problem then is one of timing. How and at what point in the growth of the town should this expenditure be incurred bearing in mind both present and proposed development. This point, in my view, is now approaching and certain proposals for development within our boundaries will hasten the day of decision.

Table showing increase in dustbins only.

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
No. of dustbins emptied weekly	3,445	3,632	3,701
No. of ashpits	8	6	6
No. of privy middens	17	12	12
No. of pail closets	25	30	30



## REFUSE DISPOSAL

A new disposal area was brought into use during the year. The area in question, a disused quarry, is sited to the South West of the Doncaster - Pontefract railway line and is well away from major housing development. However it is not too easily accessible, the railway line having to be crossed on all journeys, both to and from the tipping area. This again, I am afraid, has increased travelling time during which the vehicle is not gainfully employed.

An access road to the quarry had to be tipped before a good face could be started and some little difficulty was experienced in achieving rapid consolidation. This problem was solved by using spoil removed from excavations in connection with a Trunk Road improvement.

A large amount of bituminised paper was tipped weekly by a local firm but owing to increased fire risk and the time lost in digging out local conflagrations this has now been diverted to another site.

Rats were practically non-existent on the tips during the year but owing to the very hot, dry weather last summer flies were a constant source of trouble to the only house in close proximity to the tip.

Fires occurred on a number of occasions and warnings were issued to children known to have been at least implicated in, if not the direct cause of, one or more of the fires. The tractor was a constant blessing in mechanical form as it was used to consolidate the refuse, dig out and spread covering material, dig out or isolate deep seated fires and level and grade the finished surface. The same tractor was also loaned to other Departments, notably the Parks Department, where it was similarly put to effective use.

The present tipping area will last us for at least another four to five years, but as a nearby colliery is to fill most of the remaining disused quarries we may then have to face a lack of tipping space a most ironic thought at this time when one sees the deep ulcer - like depressions riddling the district at present.

## CESSPOOLS AND SEWAGE

It is now history that the Public Enquiry into our new Sewage Works was virtually killed by a last minute announcement concerning anticipated mining subsidence. However, no problem is insoluble and this one certainly proved no exception. Some delay in putting the scheme into operation is inevitable but it should not be unduly prolonged.

The number of cesspools has remained steady but the work of gully emptying, for which there is insufficient time anyway, is steadily increasing as new housing and roads are developed.

Drains and drainage stoppages in Council Estates are cleansed by the Cesspool Emptier crew and private drains are dealt with on a rechargeable basis. Other odd jobs, again on payment, are carried out for local factories and neighbouring authorities subject always to availability of crew and machine.

PART FIVE

STATISTICAL TABLES

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Accumulations.	-	10
Canal Boats.	-	15
Cesspools.	-	11
Drainage Inspections.	-	48
Privy Conversions.	-	2
Drainage Tests.	-	23
Factories - Mechanical.	-	56
- Non Mechanical.	-	5
Means of Escape in Case of Fire.	-	40
Licensed Premises.	-	62
Nuisance Inspections.	-	79
Piggeries and Stables.	-	19
Refuse Collection.	-	171
Refuse Disposal.	-	163
Rodent Control.	-	107
Schools.	-	10
Smoke Observations.	-	17
Smoke Visits.	-	148
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	-	75
Water Supplies.	-	3
Food Inspection.	-	20
Shops Act Inspections.	-	9
Butchers.	-	51
Grocers.	-	67
Fried Fish.	-	15
Other Food Shops.	-	139
Canteens.	-	53
Ice-cream Premises.	-	51
Food Preparing Premises.	-	72
Bakehouses.	-	12
Milk Distributors.	-	35
Hawkers.	-	46
Meat Inspection.	-	684
Slaughterhouses. (excluding Meat Inspection)	-	35
Houses Inspected. (Public Health & Housing Acts)	-	209
Revisits.	-	111
Unfit Houses.	-	106
Dirty and Verminous Premises.	-	29
Infectious Disease.	-	76
Interviews.	-	602
Housing Consolidated Regulations. Houses Recorded.	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	9
Miscellaneous.	-	88
Smoke Control Areas.	-	1735
		<hr/>
	TOTAL.	5318
		<hr/> <hr/>



## SUMMARY OF NOTICES

### INFORMAL

	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied With</u>
Public Health Act, 1936	15	12
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	-	-
Factories Act, 1937	1	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	-	-

## SUMMARY OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

### EXTERIOR

Paths repaired.	-	1
Walls pointed.	-	2
Eaves gutters repaired.	-	4
Drains relaid.	-	2
cleansed.	-	47
Roofs repaired.	-	5
Water closets repaired.	-	2
Doors and windows repaired.	-	5
Dustbins renewed.	-	10

### INTERIOR

Plaster - Walls.	-	3
- Ceiling.	-	1
Floors repaired.	-	1

### FACTORIES

Sanitary Conveniences - cleansed	-	2
- repaired	-	2
Means of Escape in Case of Fire (in progress)	-	6

### FOOD PREMISES

Conveniences marked	-	2
Water Closets provided	-	1
Internal plaster repaired	-	5
Hot water provided	-	3
Soap and towels provided	-	1
Food store ratproofed	-	1
Food Shops decorated	-	3
Drainage	-	3
Floors repaired	-	3
Ventilation provided	-	1



